

# Burlington

## North Carolina



The Railroad Depot, one of the original buildings of the North Carolina Railroad Work Shops, has been restored and is now in use in Company Shops Mall.

# Burlington City Council



David L. Maynard, Dr. K. L. Keichum, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Darbour, Jr., Mayor, David R. Huffman, William L. Durham



J. D. Mackintosh, Jr.  
City Manager



City Council Meetings held 7:30 PM  
on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the  
Municipal Building.

## City of Burlington

Telephone 333-0100 • FAX 333-0101

North Carolina 27205

February 1981



### Friends, Neighbors, and Fellow Citizens of Burlington

Every year, your City Council includes in its budget an appropriation for an Annual Report. This is not just an excuse for councilmembers to put themselves on the back - it's just a good idea for all of us to stop and take a look around us once in a while to determine if we're moving in the right direction.

We have not published a Report in several years, so this will be more of a general Progress Report on Burlington rather than a Report on one year's activities of the City Council. It is refreshing to review good news at a time when so much attention is given to the bad.

To begin with, our City is in excellent financial condition. Our Bonded Indebtedness totals \$10,790,000. There is a limitation which restricts the City's Net Debt to 8% of the appraised value of property subject for taxation. Burlington's outstanding debt is less than 2%.

In terms of property tax rate, generally speaking, the total City and County taxation should not exceed 2% of the total value of taxable property in any one year. Our current tax rate is \$.73 per \$100 valuation, plus \$.76 per \$100 valuation for County Taxes, and \$.185 for City Schools. The total of all taxes amounts to only 1.675% of the total value of taxable property in the City. This is a healthy situation by any standard.

Just for comparison, the following compares our city tax rate with other North Carolina cities offering similar services whose property revaluations are conducted at approximately the same time.

Durham	\$ .950	Raleigh	\$ .93
Chapel Hill	1.215	Asheville	.97
Wilmington	.950	Burlington	.73

In terms of family income, the people in Burlington are better off than you might have been led to believe. The State average of families below the poverty level is 16.3%. Burlington's level is 8.8%. Our per family median income in Burlington is \$9301 compared to \$7774 for the whole of the State.

\* Based on 1970 Census

This certainly doesn't mean that we don't have any poor people, or that we're all wealthy, or that things can't be improved, but it does mean that we compare favorably with other communities. We all have our problems with inflation, rising prices, Federal taxes, and other factors over which we have no control, but those are things over which we have no control at the local level.

In terms of progress, we have recently opened our fourth fire station. This building is completely paid for, as well as the truck and all equipment. By making some changes in the Fire Department, we were able to open this new station by hiring only three (3) new employees. At the same time, the Fire Department has added an Emergency Medical Service to its list of responsibilities.

As you probably know, May Memorial Library is being completely remodeled, with an addition of 4000 square feet of floor space. At the same time, we can spend much more money for books and salaries. This project should be completed within a year and will be completely paid for when it's finished, and it will be a library for which you can be proud.

Over the next 20 to 50 years, water shortages are expected to be a major problem in many areas. Your new reservoir and water plant at Lake Marshfield will be completed long before we have any water shortages. If you haven't seen it, you will be surprised at the size of the project. Burlington probably has more water capacity than any city in the area and will have for many years, so that you and your family and our local industries should never have to worry about running out of water.

Also, we have one of the most advanced new waste treatment plants in the country, which is an absolute anomaly to our industry as well as to individuals.

This Council's highest priority project for the near future is a new Police Station which we hope to have let to contract within the next three (3) years with funds for the entire project being available at that time. Your Police Department is constantly being upgraded in every respect, but their building is obsolete and is just not designed for efficient police work. The new building is being designed specifically for police work to serve our needs for many years; and at the same time, it will be one that we can afford.

This year Burlington will again be host to a National Softball Tournament, as well as several major Regional swim meets, all of which add to the fiscal economy and to the National reputation of Burlington's recreation programs and facilities. The Community Centers at North Park and Fairchild Park, as well as the Youth Center, have been built in recent years and all are completely paid for.

This City has entered into a long-term lease with the Giffery Playlets, Inc. for the use of the old Pocomont Theatre, which will assure their continued success.

There is an on-going program, using Federal money, to upgrade areas such as Racquet Street. Day-to-day progress is sometimes hard to measure, but if you will look back, you will see how some of these areas looked ten years ago. It is evident that there has been constant improvement, all as a result of good long-term planning and suggestions from citizens advisory groups and from concerned individuals. The overall appearance of Burlington improves greatly every year, and again this is difficult to see from day to day.

Recently in cooperation with the County Commissioners, we have worked out the 911 Program which will enable any resident of Burlington or Alamance County to dial 911 to shorten the response time by Police, Fire, and ambulance service, rather than trying to decide which agency to call first and fumbling for telephone numbers.

This City Council is proud of your City's employees who provide services at a minimum cost to you, and whose contributions we all too often take for granted. When you read about the problems of other cities, such as riots, strikes by fire departments and Sanitation workers, crime problems, water shortages, financial deficits, and school problems, it tends to make you think Burlington is moving in the right direction.

Our city school system is ranked second best in the State. We have two fine, modern high schools. We have two first-rate hospitals, both of which are in the process of being remodeled and expanded. We have a lot of active Churches, civic groups, advisory groups, and volunteer workers who all help to make Burlington a better place to live.

To sum it all up, we think we have a lot to be proud of in Burlington, and we think we have every reason to be optimistic about the future.

Sincerely,

David R. Hulsham

David R. Hulsham, Mayor

Dr. S. A. Ketchum, Mayor Pro Tem

William L. Dyer, Councilmember

David L. Thompson, Councilmember

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# Financing of City Government Operations For 1979-80 and Estimated Expenditures for Current Year

INCOME	Actual 79-80	Budgeted 80-81	EXPENDITURES	Actual 79-80	Budgeted 80-81
Property Tax	\$3,954,207	\$4,161,000	*General Government	\$618,789	\$596,421
Water & Sewer Sales & Service	2,883,445	3,372,500	Fire	1,292,437	1,388,789
Licenses and Permits	136,399	130,000	Police	1,821,472	2,063,687
State Shared Taxes	1,620,256	1,410,000	Recreation and Parks	893,900	952,371
A. B. C. Revenue	166,810	170,000	Streets	464,064	559,267
Local Option Sales Tax	827,440	757,893	Garbage and Refuse	652,818	778,354
Parks and Recreation	325,744	304,350	Engineering, Inspections & Planning	509,537	560,609
Interest on Investments	659,850	350,500	Garage	166,602	207,523
Federal, State Grants	264,615	243,134	Cemeteries	181,998	213,264
Cemeteries	47,100	48,000	Library	116,886	116,886
Other Revenues	464,579	441,125	Water and Sewer	2,463,268	3,348,540
Fund Balance Approp.		1,391,437	Bond Principal & Interest & Fees	627,428	683,653
			Traffic Control - Street Signs	150,960	186,731
			Non Departmental	1,145,822	1,123,744
Total	\$11,350,446	\$12,779,939	Total	\$11,114,961	\$12,779,939

\*Administration, Finance, Personnel, Legal & Publicity

## Assessed Valuation

	Year	Real Estate	Personal Property	Public Service Companies	Total	Tax Rate
	80-81	Est. \$380,000,000	\$190,000,000	\$30,000,000 =	\$600,000,000	\$.73
	79-80	381,296,400	192,747,789	31,782,854 =	605,827,043	.66
	78-79	362,150,470	163,458,169	29,268,553 =	554,877,192	.68
Assessment Ratio— 100%	77-78	245,603,406	171,437,011	27,437,838 =	444,478,255	.82

# Burlington

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The City Council continued to assess the quality of city services for the citizens. Consequently, steps were taken by the Council to provide certain services and facilities:

The upgrading and expansion of the East Burlington Wastewater Treatment Plant is in the final stage of construction. The Equalization Basin has been completed.

The J. D. Mackintosh, Jr. Water Treatment Facility is nearing completion and will soon be placed into operation. The Raw Water Pump Station, Finished Water Pump Station, and Weir are complete.

The new Fire Station, located on South Church

Street, was fully equipped and staffed without bond funds.

An additional service of Neighborhood District Patrol was provided by Police Department personnel.

Community Development Funds provided for continued Housing Assistance Projects, Revitalization of the East Davis Street business area, Rehabilitation of Houses, and Street Projects.

The expansion and modernization of the May Memorial Library building is underway without the use of Bond Funds.

Computerized Program expanded to permit all Departments of the city to take advantage of this technology.

Pay and Classification Study of all city-employee jobs completed.

Reorganization of certain personnel for a more efficient operation, particularly, in the maintenance section.

Feasibility Study completed by Architectural firms for a proposed Police Administration Building, with city financing.

Emergency Medical Service Program expanded.

Long-term Lease granted to Gallery Players, Inc., for their use of a facility in the Central Business area for cultural opportunities.

Continued expansion of the Recreation program including the following:

1. Northwest Neighborhood Park
2. North Park Community Center
3. Fairchild Community Center

*Through the efforts of a financially responsible city government, services have been improved and extended; steps have been taken to aid in the expansion of our cultural activities; together with city schools ranking as Number Two in the State, Burlington has become a well-developed community and one for which there is a great deal of pride!*



Lake Mackintosh

The water treatment plant is located on Alamance Creek South of Interstate Highway 85. The J. D. Mackintosh, Jr. Water Treatment Facility, modern in design, has a capacity of 9 million gallons per day with an ultimate capacity of 45 million gallons per day.

The proposed Lake Mackintosh reservoir, upon completion, will be approximately 1,000 acres in size and have a storage capacity of over 7 billion gallons of water.



Police Neighborhood District Patrol Program

This new program provides for a neighborhood-team concept with the officer being assigned to one of five districts. In patrolling a smaller area, the officer has the advantage of becoming familiar with the people, businesses, and general activities; and can more easily recognize unusual situations. This method of patrol has been found to be more effective both in the deterrent of crimes and also in the apprehension of those committing the crimes.



Burlington Homes Project

The Burlington Housing Authority recently completed the Burlington Homes Project containing 100 units, located on Maple Avenue, providing additional housing accommodations for elderly and handicapped persons.



May Memorial Library



Waste Treatment Plant

Major construction in the upgrading and expansion of the East Burlington Wastewater Treatment Plant doubled the capacity of a secondary treatment plant to a 12 million gallon per day activated-sludge plant, which now includes a powdered carbon feature, and tertiary filtration. The new process, along with the construction of a pre-aeration-equalization basin, permits treatment of complex industrial wastewater, which will limit or eliminate pretreatment by industrial plants.



New Fire Station

The South Church Street station is adequately staffed and equipped and provides fire service for the western section of the city. With the completion of this facility, all citizens are now within a 3-mile radius of a fire station. Emergency Medical Service calls are also dispatched from this station.



## Community Planning

As a continuing program, Community Development funds have provided loans at a 3% interest rate for the rehabilitation of 178 homes for the low and moderate income families, with a maximum loan amount of \$12,000.00.

In further implementation of the Housing Assistance Plan administered by the Planning Department, the first 70 units of the Lakeside Apartment Complex are under construction by private developers.





Municipal Building



The Fairchild Community Center, located on Graham-Hopedale Road, has been completed. This facility offers basketball, volleyball, badminton, tennis, and classes to include gymnastics, decorating, quilting, jewelry making, as well as wrestling and tumbling.



The North Park Community Center located on Sharpe Road is now in operation and offers a gymnasium, game room, arts and crafts room, activity and multipurpose room, kitchen, and, in addition, a library, conference room, and offices.



Beautification

**City of Burlington**  
**P. O. Box 1358**  
**Burlington, NC 27215**

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